



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Storm Drain Education Effort Underway in Fairfax Co.

Anything that goes down a county storm drain eventually winds up in county waters and, ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay. *Only rain in the drains* is the message behind posters and brochures from the Fairfax County Park Authority that are appearing at RECenters and other Park Authority sites.

Storm drains lead directly to county streams and rivers. Their job is to efficiently move water off of paved areas after storms.

The storm drain education program includes bright blue and green markers that are being placed on storm drains in parks throughout Fairfax County. The markers remind people there's "no dumping" and that trash on the streets goes down the drains and into local streams.

These publications remind residents that sediment, nutrients, toxics, pathogens and litter can pollute water. Alternatives and solutions include planting native plants, proper fertilization, composting yard waste, proper disposal of paints and motor oil, recycling, proper disposal of trash, and picking up after the pooch.

The Park Authority program is being conducted in conjunction with the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's storm drain education program. Citizens can get involved by volunteering or by learning how to mark drains in their own residential areas. There's information at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/stormdrained.htm.

For more information call 703-324-8580.

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